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LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 5 March 1994 from His Excellency Mr. Emomali Rakhmonov, Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Tajikistan, concerning the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border and the convening of a meeting of the Security Council to consider the question of granting the status of United Nations peace-keeping forces to the collective peace-keeping forces of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States stationed in Tajikistan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) L. KAYUMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 5 March 1994 from the Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Council of Tajikistan addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my letter of 27 October 1993 to the President of the Security Council, Mr. Ronaldo Mota Sardenberg, regarding the situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border, I had the honour to report that on 24 September 1993 the heads of a number of States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States - the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Uzbekistan - took a decision on the establishment of collective peace-keeping forces in Tajikistan and on the commencement of their operations. We regard this agreement, which was concluded within the framework and in accordance with the purposes and principles of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, as guaranteeing the security and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan and stability along the Tajik-Afghan border and in the region as a whole.

Unfortunately the situation along Tajikistan's border with Afghanistan remains tense and volatile: terrorist attacks and acts of sabotage continue to be carried out by armed formations of the Tajik opposition, with the support of some groups of Afghan mujahidin, and this causes us deep concern.

I can assure the distinguished members of the Security Council that the leaders of Tajikistan intend to abide firmly by the programme for a peaceful settlement of the conflict between the various political forces of Tajikistan and of the situation along the Tajik-Afghan border, using political means.

To this end, I should like to inform you that I have maintained constant contacts with the President of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, His Excellency Mr. Burhanuddin Rabbani, regarding problems relating to the situation on the border between our countries and the return of Tajik refugees from Afghanistan to their homeland.

We are firmly convinced that violence and armed confrontation will lead to further casualties and will not solve any problems, and that the tension on the border threatens stability and security not only in Tajikistan, but throughout the entire region.

We express our deep hope that, for the sake of peace and prosperity of the homeland, all parties to the conflict in Tajikistan, with the support and assistance of the Security Council, will participate in the forthcoming talks and observe all the conditions of the cease-fire. The cease-fire and the disarming of all the armed formations must be carried out and guaranteed with the assistance of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

We greatly appreciate the extensive and useful work carried out by Ambassador Ramiro Piriz-Ballon, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Tajikistan, and have reached an understanding with him on the key issues relating to a full settlement of the conflict in Tajikistan, which would

include, as a first step, the holding of talks in March of this year in Moscow with representatives of the Tajik opposition.

The leaders of Tajikistan call upon all those who support a peaceful political solution of the conflict in Tajikistan and the crisis on the border with Afghanistan and of the rapid return of our refugees to their homeland to take part in this dialogue, which is vitally important to our country and its people.

We request the Security Council to consider the question of granting the status of United Nations peace-keeping forces to the collective peace-keeping forces of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States stationed in Tajikistan.

I should like to ask that you convene a meeting of the Security Council to consider this request and adopt an appropriate resolution.

Emomali RAKHMONOV
Head of State
Chairman of the Supreme Council
of the Republic of Tajikistan